

Message Text

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60

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6124

UNCLAS ROME 3530

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, IT (ANDREOTTI, GIULIO)

SUBJ: ANDREOTTI INTERVIEWED BY L'ESPRESSO CONCERNING PIKE REPORT

1. MARHC 7 EDITION OF L'ESPRESSO NEWSMAGAZINE WHICH HIT STREETS TODAY CONTAIN FASCINATING INTERVIEW IN WHICH ANDREOTTI RESPONDS TO QUESTIONS CONCERNING ALLEGED CIA ACTIVITIES IN ITALY. GIST OF PIECE IS THAT HE NEVER KNEW OF SUCH ACTIVITIES AND THAT HE IS ESPECIALLY PUZZLED BY ALLEGATIONS THAT AMBASSADOR MARTIN PROVIDED FUNDS TO THE INTELLIGENCE CHIEF, GENERAL MICELI. ANDREOTTI REMINDS THAT HE WAS PRIME MINISTER AT THAT TIME. HE FINDS IT ABUSIVE THAT ANYONE COULD HAVE BEEN SO WORRIED ABOUT ITALIAN DEMOCRACY TO HAVE TAKEN VARIED SUPPORT INITIATIVES WITHOUT HAVING FELT THE NEED TO CONSULT WITH THE PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR THE GOVERNMENT. GOI MUST CONTINUE TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO GET FULL FACTS FROM USG. IF GOI'S EFFORT BEARS NO FRUIT THEN "WE MUST ALL TOGETHER URGE THE PRESIDENT OF THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES (L'ON PERTINI, PSI) TO TAKE THE NECESSARY INITIATIVES. ANOTHER ROUTE, THOUGH SUBORDINATE, COULD BE THROUGH THE INTERPARLIAMENTARY UNION. FOR EXAMPLE, A SPECIAL VISIT BY VEDOVATO (DC SENATOR) AND CALAMANDREI (PCI SENATOR) TO WASHINGTON COULD OBTAIN THE DESIRED RESULTS."

2. INTERVIEW WAS PICKED UP BY SEVERAL DAILIES INCLUDING /IL TEMPO/ AND /IL MESSAGGERO/. STORY HANDLED IN STRAIGHT FORWARD MANNER. IT SHOULD ALSO BE NOTED THAT ANDREOTTI STATED THAT HE HAS COMMUNICATED WITH AMBASSADOR VOLPE (LETTER) AND FORMER AMBASSADOR MARTIN (TELEGRAM) IN EFFORT TO ENCOURAGE THEIR
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COOPERATION IN PUTTING FULL "LIGHT" ON THE MATTER. VOLPE

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